Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)
2011 CRPD ICT ACCESSIBILITY PROGRESS REPORT QUESTIONNAIRE
GUIDELINES FOR EXPERT PANELISTS

Dear Panelist,

Thank you for participating to our worldwide data collection effort. Your contribution is very much appreciated and will help establish the first global assessment of Digital Accessibility with a particular focus on those countries which have already ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

The purpose of this questionnaire is two-fold:

- To quantify the degree to which Digital Accessibility is currently included in national legislation, regulation and government programs and/or already implemented for key product and services
    - To identify good practices around the world

Kindly let us know on the first page of the questionnaire if you prefer that we keep your participation confidential or we acknowledge your participation as a member of the panel of experts.

Please answer each question by simply marking "YES" or "NO". Closed-end questions will allow for a simple straightforward quantification process. However, to the extent possible, we also would like to have you add to specify each answer by providing specific references, links and any useful comments that you would like to share with us. Examples of supporting documentation may be the text of legislation, a link to a web site or a list of references.

Please find below a list of definitions that develops the key-terms used in the questionnaires and will help you answering the questions.

On behalf of Disabled Peoples' International (DPI) and the Research Committee of G3ict, we would like to thank you again for your valuable contribution and participation to this important data collection effort.

LIST OF DEFINITIONS

Accessibility: It is a general term used to describe the degree to which a product, device, service, or environment is available to as many people as possible. Accessibility can be viewed as the "ability to access" and benefit from some system or entity. Accessibility is often used to focus on persons with disabilities. The term "accessibility" is defined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Art. 9) as well as the term "Universal Design."

Alternative input devices (head-Trackers, Joysticks): computer-based output devices that generally enable persons with disabilities to use or interact with a computer, such as Braille display/output devices, screen reading software and large print monitor.

Assistive technologies: technologies used by persons with disabilities in order to perform functions that might otherwise be difficult or impossible. They can include mobility devices, such

as walkers and wheelchairs, as well as hardware, software, and peripherals that assist people with disabilities in accessing computers or other information technologies.

Closed-captioning: text version of the spoken part of a television, movie, or computer presentation, which appears on the screen to help persons visually impaired.

CRPD: Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Digital Accessibility: refers to the ease of use of information and communication technologies, such as the Internet, by persons with disabilities. Web sites, hardwares, softwares and computers devices need to be developed so that persons with disabilities can access the information. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities draws attention to the need to ensure access to ICTs for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others and will help to eliminate barriers to information.

DPOs and NGOs: Disabled Peoples' Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations

information and communication technologies (ict): includes any communication device or application, encompassing: radio, television, cellular phones, computer and network hardware and software, satellite systems and so on, as well as the various services and applications associated with them, such as videoconferencing and distance learning. ICT are regulated by Art. 9 of the Convention, which implies that information and content, communication and systems – i.e. hardware and software including human interfaces, all need to be accessible.

Public procurement rules Policy: laws, regulations or policies, which contains rules on the acquisition of works, supplies and services by public bodies.

Quality mobility aids and devices: common types of assistive technologies used to improve personal mobility for persons with disabilities such as prostheses, orthoses, crutches, sticks, walking frames, wheelchairs and tricycles.

Reasonable Accommodation: "…necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case, to ensure to persons with disabilities the enjoyment or exercise on an equal basis with others of all human rights and fundamental freedoms…" (Art. 2 of the CRPD).

Relay services: operator service used by deaf persons and those with other hearing difficulties, to allow them to place telephone calls. This communication takes place through a variety of platforms: text relays through instant messaging, websites, TTYs, or video relays through videophones.

Screen Reader: software for the visually impaired that reads the contents of a computer screen, converting the text to speech.

Text-to-speech: converts digital text to audible speech.

Transcription/TDD/TTY devices: group of telecommunication devices that enable deaf and/or mute people to talk over telephone lines. TTY stands for telephone typewriter, teletypewriter or text phone and TDD stands for Telecommunications Device for the Deaf.

Universal design: "…design of products, environments, programmes and services to be usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. "Universal Design" shall not exclude assistive devices for particular groups of persons with disabilities where this is needed." (Art. 2 of the CRPD).

For additional definitions, please visit the section "Definitions" of the Joint ITU- G3ict *e-Accessibility Policy Toolkit for Persons with Disabilities*) available at:

http://www.e-accessibilitytoolkit.org/toolkit/un_convention/definitions#accessibility